

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-37 are pending. Claims 1-9 and 20-37 are allowed. Claims 18 and 19 would be allowable if rewritten.

Claim 10 is amended to clarify that the elongate tubular body has a forward barrel portion and a rearward receiver portion. Support for this amendment is found in Figs. 1 and 4. Claim 10 is also amended to clarify that the reverser mechanism comprises a firing mechanism actuator, and that rearward movement of the trigger leads to forward movement of the firing mechanism actuator, thereby actuating the firing mechanism. Support is found at paragraphs [0038]-[0041], and in particular, at paragraphs [0038] and [0040].

Claim 18 is amended to accord with amendments to claim 10.

The rejection of claims 10-17 as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,463,688 to Idehara is respectfully traversed. "To anticipate a claim, the reference must teach every element of the claim." MPEP § 2131. In the present case, Idehara fails to achieve this standard.

As amended, claims 10-17 call for a reverser mechanism comprising a firing mechanism actuator, the reverser mechanism being is coupled to a trigger and adapted to actuate a firing mechanism. As claimed, rearward movement of the trigger leads to forward movement of the firing mechanism actuator, thereby actuating the firing mechanism. As described at paragraphs [0038] and [0040] of the specification, a reverser mechanism reverses the rearward motion of a trigger into a forward motion appropriate for actuating a firing mechanism, a contact pad 106 actuating the firing mechanism. In contrast, Idehara only teaches a mechanism in which a trigger is moved forward to provide a forward motion appropriate for actuating a firing mechanism.

According to Idehara, a trigger mechanism 102 comprises a base 112 and a trigger 114 (col. 11, ln. 43-45). The trigger mechanism 102 is securely coupled to a holder 100 (col. 11, ln. 56-60). The holder 100 is adapted to push a tubular stop 98 for triggering the firing mechanism 66 (col. 11, ln. 4-6). As part of this process, the holder 100 pushes the tubular stop 98 forward, which in turn pulls a slidable member 96 forward (col. 11, ln. 36-41). Pushing the slidable member 96 forward causes a firing pin to activate, resulting in an explosive discharge (col. 12,

ln. 14-48). Thus, the holder 100, the tubular stop 98 and the slidable member 96 all move forward to actuate the firing mechanism.

As Idehara points out at column 3, lines 37-41, the trigger plate is pushed forward during firing. Because base 112 of the trigger mechanism is securely coupled to holder 100 by a bolt 104 (col. 11, ln. 56-59), forward movement of the trigger causes the holder 100, the tubular stop 98 and the slidable member 96 to move forward, ultimately leading to activation of the firing mechanism 66. This is completely different from the workings of the present invention's reverser mechanism in which backward movement of a trigger leads to forward movement that results in activation of the firing mechanism. Thus, Idehara fails to teach or suggest a reverser mechanism as called for in claims 10-17. Because all claim elements are neither taught nor suggested by Idehara, claims 10-17 are not anticipated.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants submit that the present application is in condition for allowance. A Notice of Allowance is therefore respectfully requested.

No fee is believed due. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized during prosecution of this application to charge any fees that may be required (except for patent issue fees required under 37 CFR §1.18) or to credit any overpayment of fees to Deposit Account No. 50-0337. If an extension of time is required in connection with this paper, please consider this a Petition therefor and charge any fees required to Deposit Account No. 50-0337.

Dated: January 18, 2007

Respectfully submitted,



Miles Yamanaka
Reg. No. 45,665

FULBRIGHT & JAWORSKI L.L.P
555 South Flower Street, 41st Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90071
(213) 892-9200 – Telephone
(213) 892-9494 – Facsimile